



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

04/10/2013 Minutes

VISION 2020 STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF APRIL 10, 2013 MEETING Approved

Present: Andrew Fischer, Bruce Fitzsimmons, Joey Glushko, David Haas, Mary Harrison, Elizabeth Karpati, Josh Lobel, Brucie Moulton.

Absent: Kathleen Bodie, Adam Chapdelaine, Dan Dunn, Jane Howard, Gordon Jamieson, John Leone, Cheryl Miller, Charlotte Milan, Angela Olszewski, Tarajee Pass.

- The **minutes** of the March meeting were accepted after a lively discussion resulting in several clarifying amendments.

It was noted that where there is no defined membership, as in the case of a volunteer committee where anyone interested can participate for a while, it is not appropriate to say that the committee supports or opposes some proposal, even if those present at a given meeting vote on it.

Contacting people who expressed interest in a task group via the 2013 census survey is in progress to varying degrees.

- **Census surveys:** The Town Meeting warrant article establishing Vision 2020 required annual "outreach." The survey, which has been supported by CDBG funding, has been an important example of this; however, with more restrictive CDBG rules, alternative outreach modalities need to be explored, which could include less frequent surveys.
- Not doing a survey in a given year will free up a lot of time for other initiatives. However, we agreed that the decision on surveys should be independent of the funding question. We noted that the Master Planning process is going to include several surveys in the next few years.
- Possibilities mentioned for outreach in lieu of a survey include ideas for community education, and a Vision 2020 column in the *Arlington Advocate*, perhaps with contributions from the task groups on a rotating basis.
- **Census survey results:** A printout of the results from 3883 responses was presented and discussed. Less than one in four indicated attendance at Town government events like Candidates' Night. Total responses were 4026 on paper and 432 on-line.

People who are officially members of the Standing Committee but don't attend our meetings should be invited to a particular meeting when something relevant to their position is on the agenda.

- Possible sites for the **year-end event**, tentatively June 11: Symmes, if the state of construction allows; or the newly developed Brigham's site, or the new Thompson School.
- **Town Day** will be September 21, rain date September 28. We should consider reconfiguring our setup to attract more people. Some ideas mentioned: A better focus. Big eye-catching graphics. Something presented on a computer, if electricity is available. Something interactive like the Secchi disk display of the Spy Pond committee. A place where interested people can sit down and discuss something with Vision 2020 people staffing the table.